



## State of Nevada – Department Of Personnel

---

### CLASS SPECIFICATION

<u>TITLE</u>	<u>GRADE</u>	<u>EEO-4</u>	<u>CODE</u>
<b>ORIENTATION AND MOBILITY INSTRUCTOR II</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>12.450</b>
<b>ORIENTATION AND MOBILITY INSTRUCTOR I</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>12.451</b>

### SERIES CONCEPTS

Under the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Social Service Title XX programs, Orientation and Mobility Instructors provide specialized training in orientation, mobility and the use of low vision aids; counsel clients toward a positive self image; supervise Orientation and Adjustment Instructors; and perform related work as required. Work is performed in clients' place of residence, at the Division of Rehabilitation orientation centers and at other locations within the community.

Incumbents review pertinent medical, psychological, audiological and ophthalmological reports as well as conduct informal assessments to: determine the extent of clients' visual and secondary disabilities; level of functioning in social, personal and employment settings; color discrimination; auditory abilities; knowledge of cardinal directions; and obvious deficiencies in posture or gait. Incumbents assess clients' abilities and aptitudes for traveling indoors, outdoors and in residential and business environments through the use of actual or simulated travel situations and recommend any adaptive devices needed to begin training such as long canes, a braille compass, and/or absorptive lenses. Incumbents prepare individual instruction plans for orientation and mobility training with respect to time frames for beginning and completing training, the number of hours and type of instruction involved and the expected results.

Incumbents provide advanced mobility training to blind and visually impaired clients which may include but is not limited to: instruction in basic pre-mobility skills; instruction in sighted guide techniques; and instruction in basic and advanced long/support cane techniques which integrate concepts of sensory training, sound localization and spatial characteristics. Clients learn through repetition, feedback and practical exposure to ascend and descend stairs, locate curbs and other landmarks, cross residential and business district streets using traffic lights, travel and shop in stores, and use various means of public transportation.

Incumbents provide clients with the necessary information for obtaining a guide dog and conduct follow up training which is specific to the unique environment or needs of the client in conjunction with the guide dog school.

Incumbents counsel clients to address the psychological aspects of vision loss to effect a positive self-image, instill an appropriate level of motivation, identify and address clients' anxieties and fears and provide skills necessary to cope with attitudes generated by the public and family members.

Incumbents instruct clients in the proper use of magnifiers, illumination controls and non-optical aids through verbal explanations, visual demonstrations and structured exercises and by applying techniques of progressive exposure, increasing complexity and decreasing print size.

Incumbents may conduct functional near vision evaluations by assimilating medical information regarding clients eye condition, visual acuities, visual fields and secondary disabilities and utilize low vision reading cards, various levels of lighting, a variety of magnifiers and non-optical devices to determine clients' functional residual vision. May recommend and demonstrate optical aids such electronic magnifiers or non-optical devices such as filters and reading stands to increase clients' functional use of residual vision.

**SERIES CONCEPT (cont.)**

Incumbents use computers, software and hard copy files to maintain required case file documentation; prepare monthly reports describing client activities; prepare written case closures; and as a member of the rehabilitation team, report and evaluate clients' progress toward goals and objectives.

Incumbents conduct in-service training, educational lectures and demonstrations for schools, clubs and organizations and act as a consultant in the community to provide information regarding the specific techniques of visual rehabilitation; foster awareness and understanding of persons with visual disabilities; and provide information relative to environmental modifications for visually impaired persons.

Incumbents supervise Orientation and Adjustment Instructor II's who assist blind and visually impaired clients to achieve personal adjustment and maximum independence through training in alternative techniques of daily living. Supervisory responsibilities include providing training and employee development, monitoring caseloads and client progress, conducting performance evaluations and initiating first-level disciplinary actions.

\*\*\*\*\*

**CLASS CONCEPTS**

**ORIENTATION AND MOBILITY INSTRUCTOR II:**

Under direction, Orientation and Mobility Instructor II's perform the full range of duties described in the series concepts.

This is the journey level for the series. It is distinguished from the Orientation and Adjustment Instructor II by the increased complexity of duties, a greater scope of responsibility and a greater consequence of error required to conduct advanced mobility training and performing supervisory duties.

**ORIENTATION AND MOBILITY INSTRUCTOR I:**

Under general supervision, Orientation and Mobility Instructor I's learn to instruct visually impaired and blind clients in advanced methods and techniques of travel.

This the entry level for the series which provides for progression to the next higher level upon successful completion of the training period and upon recommendation of the appointing authority.

\*\*\*\*\*

## MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

### ORIENTATION AND MOBILITY INSTRUCTOR II

#### EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE:

I

Bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university with a major in Special Education, Rehabilitation of the Blind, or Orientation and Mobility and one year of professional experience providing training in orientation, mobility and the use of low vision aids to blind or visually impaired clients in a rehabilitation setting; OR

II

One year of experience as an Orientation and Mobility Instructor I in Nevada State service; OR

III

An equivalent combination of education or experience which provided the applicant with the entry level knowledge, skills and abilities.

FULL PERFORMANCE KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES: (These may be acquired on the job and/or needed to perform the work assigned.)

Working knowledge of the principles and practices of supervision. Working knowledge of techniques for fitting long and orthopedic cane for visually impaired persons. Working knowledge of the principles, practices, methods and techniques associated with the use of orthopedic canes while traveling in a wide range of environments. Working knowledge of the public and private transportation systems available in the community. Working knowledge of the operations of dog guide schools including procedures to apply for services.

Ability to provide mobility instruction in a wide variety of weather and environmental situations. Ability to effectively evaluate subordinate's work performance according to State regulations and Bureau standards.

Ability to instruct visually impaired clients in various indoor, residential, business and rural travel situations including the use of visual and non-visual clues and the recognition of environmental obstacles.

ENTRY LEVEL KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES: (Applicants will be screened for possession of these through written, oral, performance or other evaluation procedures.)

General knowledge of sighted-guide, self-protective, self-familiarization and other pre-cane techniques. General knowledge of the methods of long cane instruction for indoor and outdoor travel. General knowledge of the techniques used to develop auditory, olfactory and orientation skills in visually impaired persons.

Ability to evaluate visually impaired individuals for deficiencies in mobility skills.

In addition, all Knowledge Skills Abilities required at the lower level of the series.

\*\*\*\*\*

**MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS (cont.)**

**ORIENTATION AND MOBILITY INSTRUCTOR I**

**EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE:**

**I**

Bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university with a major in Special Education, Rehabilitation of the Blind, or Orientation and Mobility; OR

**II**

An equivalent combination of education or experience which provided the applicant with the entry level knowledge, skills and abilities.

**FULL PERFORMANCE KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES:** (These may be acquired on the job and/or needed to perform the work assigned.)

Working knowledge of the human eye including diseases of the eye and their functional implications. General knowledge of non-optical aids. General knowledge of optical aids, magnification and its properties, illumination and its affect on functional vision. General knowledge of the social, economic and physical problems of visually impaired and blind persons.

Ability to evaluate functional near and distance vision skills. Ability to recognize and minimize clients' fear and anxiety. Ability to develop low vision reading exercises for near and distant vision aids. Ability to independently prioritize, schedule and conduct lessons, evaluations and meetings. Ability to choose appropriate instructional methods in visual and non-visual situations.

**ENTRY LEVEL KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES:** (Applicants will be screened for possession of these through written, oral, performance or other evaluation procedures.)

Knowledge of modern educational principles and practices applicable to the orientation and instruction of persons who are visually impaired. General knowledge of the principles of peripatology and orientation and adjustment instruction. General knowledge of the theories, principles and practices associated with the counseling and instruction of persons with visual disabilities. General knowledge of the methods used to communicate with visually disabled persons. General knowledge of the use of medical and psychiatric services. General knowledge of human growth and development. General knowledge of medical terminology. General knowledge of eye functions, eye pathologies, and the principles of optics.

**MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS (cont.)**

**ENTRY LEVEL KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES: (cont.)**

Ability to adapt educational principles to teaching the visually impaired. Ability to establish a rapport and gain the trust of others. Ability to work with and teach persons from a variety of ethnic, social and educational backgrounds. Ability to counsel clients and impart empathy in their adjustment to visual loss. Ability to make oral presentations to individuals and groups. Ability to prepare written reports and keep accurate case records. Ability to accurately document case work activities and prepare written status and progress reports. Ability to read and analyze reports from the medical, psychiatric and legal professions. Ability to communicate effectively, both verbally and in writing. Ability to motivate, counsel and guide visually disabled persons in their adjustment and orientation to vision loss.

This class specification is used for classification, recruitment and examination purposes. It is not to be considered a substitute for work performance standards for positions assigned to this class.

**12.450**

**12.451**

ESTABLISHED: 4/13/70 1/17/72

REVISED: 4/4/75

7/1/93P

10/23/92PC

REVISED: 7/1/93P

10/23/92PC